

Chapter 451

(Senate Bill 598)

AN ACT concerning

Maryland Medical Assistance Program – Coverage – Hepatitis C Drugs

FOR the purpose of requiring the Maryland Medical Assistance Program, subject to a certain limitation, to provide coverage for certain drugs for the treatment of hepatitis C, regardless of the fibrosis score; and generally relating to the Maryland Medical Assistance Program and coverage for hepatitis C drugs.

BY repealing and reenacting, without amendments,
Article – Health – General
Section 15–103(a)(1) and (b)(1), (2)(i), and (5)(i)
Annotated Code of Maryland
(2015 Replacement Volume and 2018 Supplement)

BY repealing and reenacting, with amendments,
Article – Health – General
Section 15–103(a)(2)(xii) and (xiii)
Annotated Code of Maryland
(2015 Replacement Volume and 2018 Supplement)

BY adding to
Article – Health – General
Section 15–103(a)(2)(xiv)
Annotated Code of Maryland
(2015 Replacement Volume and 2018 Supplement)

SECTION 1. BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF MARYLAND,
That the Laws of Maryland read as follows:

Article – Health – General

15–103.

(a) (1) The Secretary shall administer the Maryland Medical Assistance Program.

(2) The Program:

(xii) Shall provide services in accordance with funding restrictions included in the annual State budget bill; [and]

(xiii) Beginning on January 1, 2019, may provide, subject to the limitations of the State budget, and as permitted by federal law, dental services for adults whose annual household income is at or below 133 percent of the poverty level; AND

(XIV) SHALL PROVIDE, SUBJECT TO THE LIMITATIONS OF THE STATE BUDGET, ~~ANY~~ MEDICALLY APPROPRIATE ~~DRUG~~ DRUGS THAT ~~IS~~ ARE APPROVED BY THE UNITED STATES FOOD AND DRUG ADMINISTRATION FOR THE TREATMENT OF HEPATITIS C, REGARDLESS OF THE FIBROSIS SCORE, AND THAT ~~IS~~ ARE DETERMINED TO BE MEDICALLY NECESSARY ~~BY THE TREATING PHYSICIAN OF THE PROGRAM RECIPIENT~~.

(b) (1) As permitted by federal law or waiver, the Secretary may establish a program under which Program recipients are required to enroll in managed care organizations.

(2) (i) The benefits required by the program developed under paragraph (1) of this subsection shall be adopted by regulation and shall be equivalent to the benefit level required by the Maryland Medical Assistance Program on January 1, 1996.

(5) (i) Except for a service excluded by the Secretary under paragraph (4) of this subsection, each managed care organization shall provide all the benefits required by regulations adopted under paragraph (2) of this subsection.

SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall take effect October 1, 2019.

Approved by the Governor, May 13, 2019.